

# SIGNAL 14

THE OFFICIAL QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA PBA

## INSIDE:

### Page 2

*Introducing Your Vice President and Your Troop A Director*

### Page 3

*Introducing Your Troop C Director and Your Troop E Director*

### Page 3

*PBA Wearables are at: [www.BuyPBA.com](http://www.BuyPBA.com)*

### Page 4

*Introducing Your Troop H Director and Your Troop L Director*

### Page 4

*Legislative Update*

### Page 5

*FHP Chapter Officers meeting with Colonel Knight*

### Page 6

*Florida PBA Board Meeting Photos*

### Page 7

*Change of Address*

### Page 7

*Florida PBA Heart Fund and much, much more!*

## PRESIDENT'S GREETING

**By William B. Smith, Jr.**

Hello Members,

My name is **Trooper William B. Smith**, your president of the Florida Highway Patrol Chapter of the Florida PBA. I have been with the Patrol for 23 years and have been in Troop E, Miami, the entire time.

My goal as your president is to lead the Board in the direction of promises kept, not broken, backing the legislation which helps the members the most; and keeping troopers informed about things which affect them. Good communication is extremely important.

We must, as a chapter, increase our membership. Large membership shows

unity. We need to come together and show the legislators we stand together. We all must get involved and stay involved.

This is your union and I intend to work hard for all of you. So feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or help you with anything. E-mail: [instruc777@aol.com](mailto:instruc777@aol.com). Cell: 305.333.4344.

*Thanks*

*William B. Smith*

*"Bill" 🇺🇸*



***See Legislative Update on Page 4***

## SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT'S GREETING

**By Dennis Hobbs**

Hello Fellow Members:

I am **Dennis Hobbs**, your Senior Vice President of the FHP Chapter. For those of you who don't know me, I have been with the Patrol 12 years. All of my time has been in Troop C, Tampa Bay area. I am currently serving as Troop C Motor Sergeant.

Our goal as members of the executive board is to get it right this time. In the past, there were a lot of promises made that never happened. Our board is working hard to make sure that a lot of the promises from the past are put into action. Our goals are also to keep the members informed at all times

and to increase membership. As you all know, there's power in numbers. My fellow board members and I are here to serve you. We ask that each of you stay involved as much as possible and we intend to keep you informed. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about anything. My cell is 727.647.3743 and my work number is 727.570.5010, x114. I look forward to meeting and talking to all of you.

*Thanks*

*Dennis Hobbs 🇺🇸*





**Signal 14 is the Quarterly Publication of the Florida Highway Patrol Chapter of the Florida Police Benevolent Association**  
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**Senior Vice President** .....Dennis Hobbs  
**Vice President** .....Dina D. Hulnick  
**Secretary/Treasurer** .....Linda Popanz

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**Troop B** .....Vacant  
**Troop C** .....Frank O. Burke  
**Troop D** .....Vacant  
**Troop E** .....Timothy Brown  
**Troop F** .....Vacant  
**Troop G** .....Vacant  
**Troop H** .....Brannon M. Snead  
**Troop K** .....Robert Boody  
**Troop L** .....Christopher A. Gatewood  
**Troop Q** ..... Vacant

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*Opinions expressed by guest writers are not necessarily the views and opinions of this chapter or editorial staff.*

# VICE PRESIDENT'S GREETING

**By Dina D. Hulnick**



My name is **Trooper Dina Hulnick** and I am the newly-elected Vice President for the Florida Highway Patrol Chapter of the Florida PBA. I am a 20 year veteran of the Patrol and am currently assigned to the Bureau of Investigations, Auto Theft Section, located in Miami-Dade County.

I am very dedicated and committed to my job and would like to apply this same work ethic to my position as vice president. I want to encourage all of you to support the PBA. This is going to be a really big year for us! Remember, there is strength in numbers.

I look forward to working with all of you during my term of office.

Thank you,  
Dina 🍀

# TROOP A DIRECTOR GREETING

**By Donnie Chapman**



I'm **Donnie Chapman**, your Troop A Director for the FHP Chapter. I am a corporal, assigned to the Panama City District. I served in the Navy from 1979 to 1984, and joined the FHP in 1985. My first duty station was Troop L, Ft. Lauderdale. I transferred to the Panama City District in 1987 and have been there since.

As your Troop A Director, I will be available to you 24/7. While on the board of directors, I will do what I can to promote what is best for our troopers. Also, I would like to recruit more members for the PBA. Membership is beneficial for you and supports the union that supports us.

Thanks  
Donnie 🍀

## TROOP C DIRECTOR GREETING

By Frank Burke



Hello

I'm **Frank Burke**, your Director of Troop C for the FHP Chapter. It is an honor to serve as your director and I promise to listen to everyone—members and non-members. I've been with the Florida Highway Patrol for 21 years and have served my entire career in Troop C. I'm currently assigned as a Senior Traffic Homicide Investigator for the Tampa/Pinellas Park Districts.

As many of you know, I've been very outspoken about what I expect of a union, and that's why I joined.

I encourage and challenge everyone in Troop C to join. I believe this is an exciting time for troopers and want to see us move forward, solving many of our problems.

There are two goals that I would like to achieve as your director. First, increase our membership. This is very important, especially after we separate from SLEO. This is critical. We need a strong membership base to show the legislature that we are united. Secondly, I want to be your voice and to be there for you. I'm looking forward to serving and working with you. "United we can get things done." 🍀

## TROOP E DIRECTOR GREETING

By Timothy Brown



Hello, I'm **Tim Brown**, your Troop E Director for the FHP Chapter. After graduating from Florida State University, I joined the Florida Highway Patrol in 1986. I have served all 20 years as a trooper in the South Florida area. During my tenure with the Patrol, I have worked the District in patrol, traffic homicide in Monroe County, robbery task force with Miami-Dade Police Department, and money laundering task force with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. I am presently a sergeant in the Traffic Homicide Unit in Miami-Dade County.

I have been a field representative for the past six years and will be proud to continue to serve as a field representative for the Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. 🍀

**To Contact PBA:  
1.800.733.3722**

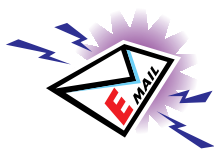
**FHP Chapter Secretary Liz Mixson  
Extension 412 ▪ E-Mail: [liz@flpba.org](mailto:liz@flpba.org)**

## Get Your PBA Wearables at: [www.BuyPBA.com](http://www.BuyPBA.com)

Members have been inquiring about how to purchase PBA merchandise such as golf shirts, t-shirts, caps, etc. Well, now you can at [www.BuyPBA.com](http://www.BuyPBA.com), the official site for all your PBA wearables and merchandise. The website is constantly adding new items, so return often!

You can also order by using the Toll Free Number at 1-888-FL COPS 5 (888-352-6775)

Thanks for your support for PBA!



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NOT AN E-PBA MEMBER YET? Become one! Be the first to know about breaking news... direct to your inbox. Don't wait, sign up today for E-PBA. Go to our website at [www.flpba.org](http://www.flpba.org) and click on the E-PBA link.

Knowledge about PBA issues is the strength of our Association. PBA will be e-mailing members timely news about what's up at the Florida PBA, helpful information regarding legislative issues, quick tips, and best practices for members.

Your e-mail address will not be given to any other group or organization and you will receive no advertising from outside sources. E-PBA is available to PBA members only.



## TROOP H DIRECTOR GREETING

By **Brannon M. Snead**

Fellow Highway Patrol and PBA

Members,

I am **Brannon Snead**, a graduate and the class president of the 94th Recruit Class. I joined the Florida Highway Patrol in 1998 and have been stationed in Ft. Myers, Ocala and Tallahassee. I am currently a corporal and traffic homicide investigator stationed in Troop H, Tallahassee. I have been selected as the Troop H Director of the Florida Highway Patrol Chapter. As your representative, I look forward to being the voice of the troop and its members.

I encourage fellow troopers to become members of the PBA and join our efforts to gain separation from other state law enforcement agencies. Help continue **Colonel Knight's** and the PBA's efforts to obtain the current payraises and benefit packages to better the Florida Highway Patrol's future and existence as the premier agency in the State of Florida.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity and look forward to providing a professional working relationship. 🍀



## TROOP L DIRECTOR GREETING

By **Christopher A. Gatewood**

I would like to introduce myself

as **Trooper Christopher A. Gatewood**, Troop L Director for the FHP Chapter. I am a second generation trooper from Milton, FL. I am a graduate of the 102nd recruit class in 2002. I'm currently stationed in the Davie District of Troop L. I am a CMS Instructor and the Davie District auxiliary coordinator. I am also a member of the Troop L Mobile Field Force Unit.

My goals for the FHP Chapter are increased membership and increased communication. 🍀



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By **Matt Puckett, Florida PBA Deputy Executive Director**

**W**ith only days left in 2006, the FHP Chapter and the Florida PBA are moving along steadily with our 2007 Legislative agenda. First and foremost, the leadership of the FHP Chapter has set the course by making the FHP Separation Bill and fixing pay compression the top priorities. The Chapter leadership met in Tallahassee to discuss the issues with **Colonel Chris Knight** and **Director Fred Dickinson**. Colonel Knight demonstrated his commitment to work with the Chapter by attending meetings with the PBA and Legislative Leaders to push for separation and pay compression relief. **Representative Bob Allen** has filed HB 73 (FHP Separation) and **Senator Mike Fasano** is only waiting for his version to receive a bill number. Our hope is to receive early committee hearings in order to move the Separation Bill through the process rapidly. We will keep you posted via E-PBA (see page 3), our Capitol Report and this newsletter. Please join us in pushing for these two important issues. 🍀



*Your FHP Chapter Board meeting with Colonel Knight at PBA.*



# Florida PBA Board Meeting Highlights



*Florida PBA President John Rivera addresses the Board of Directors and Executive Officers of the Charters and Chapters throughout Florida on December 2, 2006.*



*Florida PBA Executive Director David Murrell discusses overall status of the Florida PBA. All is good!*



*Florida PBA Director of Organizational Services Jim Wiggins brings everyone up-to-date on the continued growth of the Florida PBA, now over 35,000!*



*Florida PBA Deputy Executive Director Matt Puckett lists and explains the PBA legislative agenda for 2007.*



*Newly elected FHP Chapter President William Smith and Senior Vice President Dennis Hobbs follow along in their PBA Agenda books.*



*President William Smith meets with PBA Staff Reps Nate Ingram (left) and Ed Hotaling to discuss recruiting chapter members.*

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Have you moved recently, or are in the process of moving? If so, we need your new address! Please notify the PBA office of your change of address so that you won't miss any important mailings. If you would like to get updates by email, please include your email address, or email a request to: [liz@flpba.org](mailto:liz@flpba.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number:\* \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

(\*Your Social Security Number helps us identify you correctly in case of similar names.)

**Return to:**  
**Liz Mixson, FHP Chapter Membership Secretary,**  
**Florida PBA,**  
**300 East Brevard St.,**  
**Tallahassee, FL 32301**

# Proud, Professional and PBA!

## PBA HEART FUND DEATH AND DISABILITY PLAN



In an effort to help the families of law enforcement officers who are killed or disabled in the line of duty, Florida Police Benevolent Association (PBA) has established a charitable arm which is called the PBA Heart Fund. Because the PBA Heart Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization, contributions are tax deductible. Monies donated to the Heart Fund are used to provide death benefits to the families of officers killed in the line of duty and disability benefits to officers who are permanently disabled because of an in-line-of-duty disability.

Aside from individuals who may want to donate with the tax deduction in mind\*, political campaigns may dispose of surplus funds (after the campaign is over) by donating some or all of the surplus to the PBA Heart Fund [s. 106.141 (4) (a) 2., Florida Statutes]. And, of course, other entities (e.g. not-for-profit corporations) may also donate to this cause. The address is:

Florida PBA Heart Fund  
300 East Brevard Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

More information about the Heart Fund may be obtained  
by calling Florida PBA at 1-800-733-3722.

\*Receipt for donations will be provided upon request.



**Florida Highway Patrol Chapter**  
of the Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc.  
300 East Brevard Street  
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with Non PBA Members at  
your agency!**

## **PBA “SUPPORT LAW ENFORCEMENT” TAG SELLING FAST!**

**Y**ou can get your very own Florida PBA “Support Law Enforcement” Tag at your county tag office. You may purchase the plate with random numbers and letters or create a personalized tag for your vehicle(s). Over 18,500 have been purchased so far!

The proceeds of this tag will be deposited into a charitable fund—Florida PBA Heart Fund—for the Association’s members (see page 7). The great thing about the contributions made to the Heart Fund, they are tax-deductible! 🍀

